

REMARKS

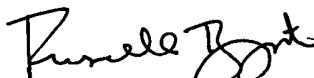
It is respectfully submitted that the amendments made to the specifications and formal drawings merely clarify the invention and that no new matter has been added. A marked-up copy of all amendments to the specification is attached to this Preliminary Amendment as Exhibit A.

Due to the mail disruptions, the first preliminary amendment mailed January 23, 2002, may not have been matched to the appropriate file. Attached to this Second Preliminary Amendment is a copy of the first Preliminary Amendment. Applicant requests that the Examiner enter both the first and second preliminary amendments prior to the examination of the case.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests the thorough and complete examination of this application and earnestly solicits an early notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

JENKENS & GILCHRIST,
A Professional Corporation


Russell N. Rippamonti
Reg. No. 39,521

1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 3200
Dallas, Texas 75202-2799
(214) 855-4171
(214) 855-4300 (fax)



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Exhibit A
Marked Specifications

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 20 and ending at page 2 line 23 with the following paragraph:

As shown in Fig. 4, the subcooled water mist W is injected from a nozzle 134, into [the pressure reducing section 132] a moisture jet section 135, and the jet pattern of this subcooled water mist W is conical. The subcooled water mist W injected from nozzle 134 collides with the steam S1, to cool down the steam S1.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 9 and ending at page 3 line 12 with the following paragraph:

However, when the nozzle 134 is disposed remote from the pressure reducing section 132 for the aforementioned reason, it is difficult to disperse (subdivide) the subcooled water as the velocity of the annular flowing steam decreases with the distance from the pressure reducing section [2] 132.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 18 and ending at page 4 line 23 with the following paragraph:

It will be understood by those skilled in the art that one or more of nozzles 4 for injecting moisture W may be juxtaposed in several stages in the [lower portion] moisture jet section 5 of valve 20. The nozzle 4 disposed in the position nearest to the pressure reducing section 2 is a flat

nozzle 4a. Other nozzles 4 disposed further away from the pressure reducing section 2 may have jet patterns of either planar or conical shape.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 3 and ending at page 7 line 12 with the following paragraph:

A nozzle [34] 134 having a conical subcooled water mist W jet pattern r (as in the prior art), cannot be disposed near the pressure reducing section 2 because it is difficult to have sufficient velocity in the annular flowing steam S1 to disperse (subdivide) the subcooled water mist W. Additionally, the collision angle of the annular flowing steam S1 varies due to an unstable jet direction. The relative velocity of the annular flowing steam S1 fluctuates, and the mist diameter after the subdivision by the collision with the annular flowing steam S1 becomes uneven, reducing the cooling effect (it is important to make the mist diameter after the subdivision by the collision even to achieve effective cooling).

Please replace the Abstract on page 9 with the following Abstract:

A steam pressure reducing and conditioning valve for passing a superheated steam S inflowing from a first port 1 through a pressure reducing section 2, and, supplying subcooled water mist W and discharging desuperheated and depressurized steam S2 from a second port 3, wherein a first nozzle 4 for supplying mist W is provided in proximity to [said] the pressure reducing section 2. [Said] The nozzle 4 injects subcooled water mist in a planar pattern r perpendicular to the flow of depressurized steam S1. Said first nozzle 4 is disposed such that

there is a predetermined distance L between the jet pattern r of moisture W injected from the nozzle and [said] the pressure reducing section 2.